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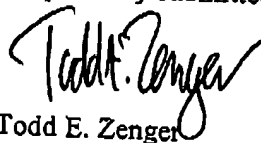
the contact containment portion(s) comprising a passageway through which the sulphur dioxide gas and the water codirectionally flow in contact with each other and in which at least a portion of the sulphur dioxide gas reacts with the water to form sulphurous acid, and means for discharging the sulphurous acid and any unreacted sulphur dioxide gas.

REMARKS

The applicant appreciates the telephone call of Examiner Ohorodnik to clarify the preliminary amendments to this case. Claims 1-4 have been canceled. Claim 5 was previously determined to be allowable. New claim 6 has been added and is allowable. The applicant requests notice of allowance as soon as possible.

DATED this 16th day of November, 2000.

Respectfully submitted,



Todd E. Zenger
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 33,610

KIRTON & MCCONKIE
1800 Eagle Gate Tower
60 East South Temple
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111
Telephone: (801) 350-7610
Facsimile: (801) 321-4893

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